

S Y L L A B U S

OF

L E C T U R E S

On the THEORY and PRACTICE of

M I D W I F E R Y :

I N C L U D I N G

The *Pathology* or general Doctrines of *acute and chronic Diseases* incident to *Women and Children*, with their *Treatment and Cure*.

* * For the clearer Demonstration of operative Midwifery (whether simply by the Hand, or *Application of Instruments*) the several Methods of assisting in *laborious and preternatural Labours*, will not only be described according to the most approved modern Practice, but likewise distinctly shewn by an *artificial Representation of each difficult Case*, upon *Machines of a new Construction*.

The whole will be illustrated by such *Anatomical Preparations* as are applicable to each Lecture; with various Observations, extraordinary Cases, and necessary Cautions; but particularly, by *real Labours*.

By J O H N L E A K E, M. D.

Member of the Royal College of Physicians, LONDON,
and PHYSICIAN to the

WESTMINSTER LYING-IN HOSPITAL,

At his House in *Craven-Street* in the *Strand*.

LONDON, A. D. 1782.

P R O P O S A L S.

THE *Students* who attend these LECTURES, for their more expeditious and effectual Improvement, will be admitted *Pupils* at the *Westminster Lying-in-Hospital*, and afterwards receive a *proper Certificate* of their Qualification and Attendance; — *a Privilege unusual elsewhere.*

Expence of attending the first Course - - - - - 4 Guineas—and
For every future Course - - - - - 2 Guineas

Ten Guinea
Pupils.

} *Ten Guinea Pupils* will be entitled to attend the Lectures for the Space of *one Year*, or until they are duly qualified; they will also be admitted *Pupils* at the *Hospital* for *six Months*, where they will have frequent Opportunities of *extensive Practice*, and of being present at *laborious* and *preternatural Cases*, or wherever there is *Danger* and *Difficulty*.

Pupils having
extra Privile-
ges.

} Those who want sufficient time to wait for Instructions, in the usual Manner, will be allowed an *Additional Number of Labors*, with other Advantages tending to qualify them the sooner; on paying in Proportion for such *Extra Privileges*.

House-Sur-
geon.

} An *Hospital-Assistant to Dr. Leake* will be admitted for *six*, or *three Months*, and entitled to *Extra Privileges*; viz.

He will attend the Lectures as a *perpetual Pupil*, and be allowed a double share of Labors, so as to render him expert and judicious in the *Art of Touching*, upon which his future Success will greatly depend.

He will not only be allowed the Privilege of being present at all *preternatural and laborious Cases*; but also have the advantage of seeing the treatment of the various Diseases incident to Lying-in Women, namely, those of *Child-bed Fever*, *Floodings*, *Convulsions*, &c.

He will be permitted to examine the *morbid appearances* of bodies opened at the Hospital, with a View to illustrate the Cure of such Diseases as were imperfectly understood; and also to take *clinical minutes* of such remarkable cases as occur during the time of his attendance.

*** The terms of Residence at the *Hospital* may be known by personal Application to Dr. LEAKE; and likewise of receiving *House-Pupils* in Craven-Street.

The *Winter Course* of Lectures will begin the first Monday in *October*, and continue for *one Month*, from time to time, throughout the Year, as advertised in the *Public Papers*.

The *Pupils* being introduced at the Hospital, in rotation, according to the date of their commencement at Lectures, *such as enter their Names early* will attend Labours so much the sooner, and have more Time and Opportunity to see the Variety of Practice in *laborious and preternatural Cases*, &c.

Before the Establishment of *This Hospital*, in which near *Five Thousand Women* have been delivered; it was extremely disagreeable to attend Labors at a great distance, among the *lowest Class of People*, in Garrets and Cellars, where a number of Pupils were obliged to attend the same Patient; From the indecency of this Method, they were often exposed to *Insults*, and for all their Trouble, could acquire no *true Practical Knowledge*; because, where so many were present at the same Labor, besides the confusion it occasioned, only one of them could properly be said to deliver the Patient; and as they only touched her by turns, *not one of the whole Number could exactly know the natural Progress of the Labour from beginning to end*; on the contrary, *every Pupil*, after his Introduction at *this Hospital*, is called *singly* to the Labors, and attends her with the same *Decorum* as if she was a *private Patient of his own*.

Hence it must be evident, that a *Certificate of Attendance* at this *Public Hospital* will carry with it much more Credit and Consequence than that of being called to *casual Labours* only.

Female } *Female Pupils* may be instructed, and soon duly qualified for their own
Pupils. } *Practice*, by being allowed to reside in the Hospital.

Farther Particulars may be known at the Doctor's House, or at the WESTMINSTER LYING-IN HOSPITAL, near the Bridge; which is commodiously situated for the Attendance of Pupils, in a middle Space between St. Thomas's, St. George's, and St. Bartholomew's Hospitals.

U S E of the A P P A R A T U S.

For the clearer Demonstration of Operative Midwifery, the several Methods of assisting in Difficult and Preternatural Labors, will be artificially represented on Machines of a new Construction, according to the most improved Modern Practice.

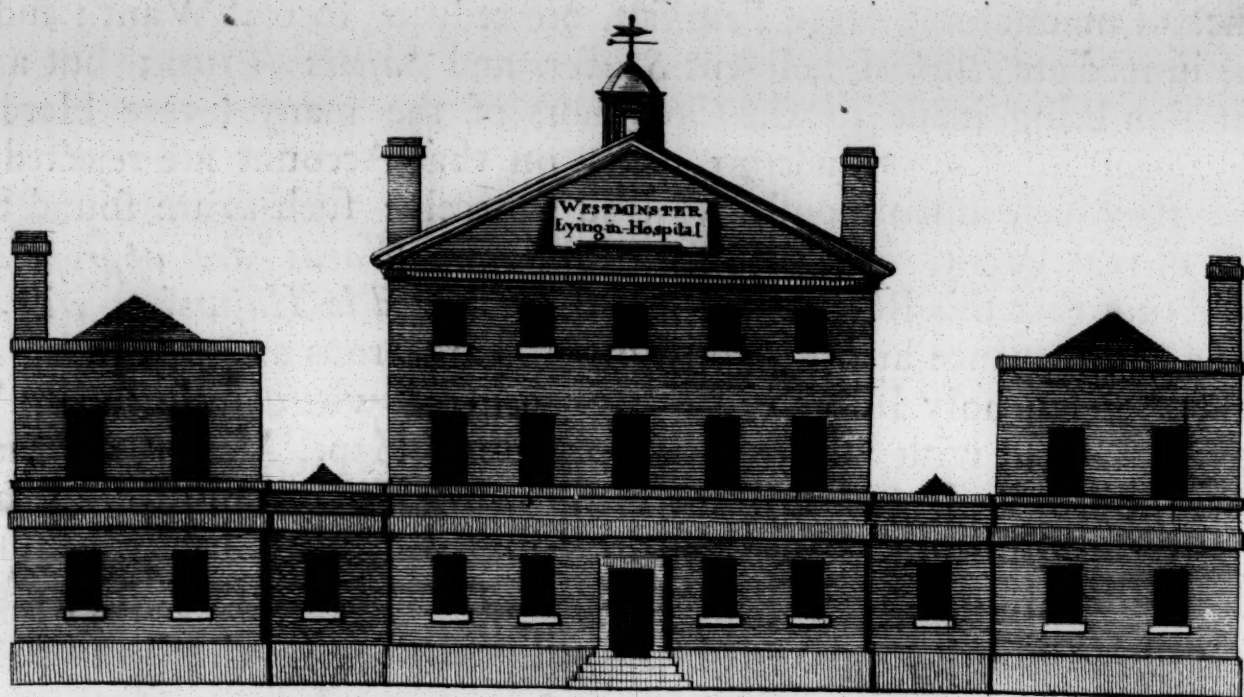
IT is here necessary to say something on the Design of that *Apparatus* intended as an *artificial Substitute* for the real Bodies of *Women and Children*.

In the *Practical Part of Midwifery*, there is a kind of *Dexterity* required, which can never be taught by Description; --- nothing but Practice itself can adapt the hand of the Pupil to the easy and judicious Performance of the several Operations in this Art.

Before any one is admitted to practise on *living Subjects*, he ought first to perform Operations on *artificial Bodies*, so *naturally constructed*, as to correspond with the several Parts concerned in *Parturition*. But as *bad Machines* are so far from being serviceable, that they do much harm, by misinforming the judgment of the Student, and giving him a false idea of Nature, in the *Touch, Figure, and Disposition* of the several Parts; I was induced to bestow no small labor, and expence on that *Apparatus*, upon which I artificially represent the *several Operations of Midwifery*; having for many years been making *Alterations and Improvements* in it, as upon *Trial* I discovered its Defects.

By the Use of this *Apparatus*, each *difficult Case* is reduced to *Demonstration*, which will afford the Student such solid Introductory knowledge as cannot be forgot; --- from thence he will become acquainted with the *Position* most conducive to a speedy delivery, and acquire *Dexterity and Skill* in applying the *different Instruments* used in *difficult Labors*; but particularly, in *preternatural Cases*, where the life of the patient depends upon his dexterity and skill, he will learn the method of *turning the Child* with more ease to himself and safety to the mother, by means of an *artificial Uterus* of a *new Construction*, which contracts progressively and uniformly on the body of the Infant, and acts on the hand of the Operator, with different degrees of force, so as to give him such ideas of real difficulty as present themselves in Nature, and in a Manner not hitherto demonstrated upon any other *Apparatus in Europe*.

* * * Gentlemen who have already attended Lectures, and are desirous of farther practical Improvement will be allowed to attend the Hospital in the first Course.



ACCOUNT of the *Westminster New Lying-in Hospital*,
instituted A. D. 1765, and supported by Volun-
tary Subscription.

The Right Honorable LADY NORTH, Patroness,
Right Honorable LORD GROSVENOR, President.

Duke of Rutland,
Hon. William Hervey,
Hon. Thomas Grosvenor,

}

Vice-Presidents.

{ Hon. Charles Fox,
Major General Boyd.
James Scawen, Esq.

IN the Year 1765, Dr. JOHN LEAKE purchased a Piece of Ground on a Building Lease on the *Surry Side of Westminster Bridge*, and afterwards presented to the Public the *Original Plan* for the institution of this Hospital.

Being honored with the patronage of several Gentleman of *Rank and Distinction*, and favored by the Assistance of his *Friends* and the Public, which he is desirous most respectfully to acknowledge; he at last had the Satisfaction of seeing this charitable Design carried into Execution, after the repeated Exertion of his utmost Endeavours to that End.

The Institution of this Charity is principally designed for the Relief of those Childbearing Women the Wives of *poor industrious Tradesmen* or *distressed Housekeepers*, who, either from *unavoidable Misfortunes*, or the
Expence

Expenditure of maintaining large Families, are reduced to real Want; and also for the immediate relief of indigent *Soldiers* and *Sailors' Wives*; but a Representation being made to the Governors of the many severe Hardships which *unmarried Women* undergo, who on that Account are rejected elsewhere; they have unanimously resolved to receive such as are found to be Objects of real Want, and for whom particular Wards are appropriated; not doubting that this Resolution, which is founded in Humanity, will meet with the Countenance and Approbation of a generous and discerning Public; many melancholy Instances having occurred where unfortunate Women overwhelmed with Shame, and destitute of Hope, Money, or Friends, have been driven to Despair by such complicated Misery, and were tempted to destroy themselves, or murder their Infants! True Charity admits of Repentance and opens her benevolent Arms to every Species of Wretchedness.

This Hospital from its general Utility, having hitherto met with great Encouragement from the Public; it is hoped, by the Governors, that the Nobility and others, as well as Gentlemen of Rank in the Army and Navy, will follow the laudable Example of those, by whose generous Munificence the Building was raised; being One Hundred Feet in Front, and large enough to contain Seventy Beds.

Dr. LEAKE attends in all Cases of Danger or Difficulty; and will also give Advice every TUESDAY at the said Hospital, to such Out-Patients as present themselves for Relief in the several Diseases incident to Women and Children.

Besides near 5000 Women relieved in this Hospital, many have been delivered at their own Habitations, and others recommended for Advice as Out-Patients, to whom proper Medicines were dispensed, *Gratis*, according to the Exigence of their several Complaints.

Subscriptions are received at Messrs. Drummonds and Co. Bankers, Charing-Cross, and by the Weekly Board every Tuesday at the Hospital, near Westminster-Bridge, where a printed Account of this present State of the Charity may be had at large.

Physicians to the Hospital.	}	Dr. John Leake,
		Dr. James Ford,
		Dr. Richard Huck Saunders,

Mr. Poignand, Surgeon,

Two visiting Apothecaries, and

A Matron.

S Y L L A B U S
OF THE
L E C T U R E S.

INTRODUCTORY LECTURE.

AN Historical View of the Rise, Progress, and present State of Midwifery; with the Theory and Practice of the ancient Writers.

General Account of the Doctrine, Writings, and Improvements of the most eminent *Modern Professors* of Midwifery; particularly, those who now give public Lectures on that Science in different Parts of Europe.

The Means most conducive to a perfect Knowledge of the Theory and Practice of Midwifery.

Qualification and Deportment of an *Accoucheur*.

T

LECTURE

L E C T U R E II.

Anatomy of the Female Pelvis, with a Description of the Form, Situation and Connexion of the several Bones of which it is made up, viz. Os Sacrum, Coccyx and Offa innominata, with their Ligamens, Cartilages, and surrounding Muscles.

Division of the Offa innominata into their several Bones, viz.

Ilium,
Ischium, &
Pubis.

The Dimensions of a well-formed Pelvis at its Brim and Bottom;—its Extent from Side to Side, and from the posterior to anterior Part; with its posterior, anterior and lateral Depth.

Figure of its Cavity, and the Difference between a well-formed and *distorted Pelvis*; also the Marks which distinguish the *Male* from *Female Pelvis*.

Causes of a distorted or *Narrow Pelvis*, and its dangerous Consequence to Child-bearing Women.

Of the Shape, Structure, and different Diameters of the Foetal Cranium; with the Advantage of knowing the *relative Proportion of the Infant's Head to the Pelvis*, as it passes through its Cavity in different Directions.

Remarks on the Membranous Connexion of the Bones composing the Infant's Skull;—different from the Adult,---and how corresponding with the Intention of Nature in facilitating the Child's Birth.

LECTURE

L E C T U R E III.

Of the Female Organs of Generation, viz.

Externally { Pudenda,
Meatus Urinarius,
Clitoris,
& Nymphæ.

Internally { Hymen,
Vagina,
Os internum
& Uterus ;
Fallopian Tubes,
Ovaria and Ligaments.

Contiguous Parts, { Vesica-Urinaria,
Rectum & Perinæum.

Figure of the Uterus in its Virgin State, and after Pregnancy; and of the gradual Distention of the Fundus and Cervix Uteri at different Periods of Gestation.

The several Parts will be shewn in *Situ Naturæ*, with *Physiological Observations* on their Structure and Use.

L E C T U R E IV.

Of the several Diseases incident to the Organs of Generation, and Methods of their Cure, viz.

Prolapsus Vaginæ & Uteri,---their Nature and Treatment.

Of *Pessaries* invented and recommended for the Relief of the above Complaints,---their pernicious Effects.

Stone in the Bladder,---its bad Consequence to Women in Labour.---Painful Symptoms thence arising---how relieved.

Of Ruptures in general, and of a particular Species of Hernia peculiar to Women.

The retroverted Womb,---its Nature and Treatment.

Imperforated Hymen and Operation necessary for its Cure.

L E C T U R E V.

Of the Menstrual Flux.

Various Hypotheses laid down by Physiologists to account for that extraordinary Phænomenon.

Of the Change produced in the female Constitution, at the Age of Puberty.

--- Menfes in their morbid State, viz. when irregular, obstructed, or too large in quantity.

Of the deviating Menfes.

Cessation of the Menfes, and Disorders from thence arising.

L E C T U R E VI.

Of *Chlorosis*, *Hysteric Affections*, and *Furor Uterinus*.

Fluor Albus; --- how distinguished from *Gonorrhæa virulenta*, Menfes decolores, or Discharge of an Ulcer in the Womb; with their several Causes, and *Method of Cure*.

Dropsy of the Ovaria --- its Nature and Event.

Of the cancerous Womb; Schirrous and Cancerous Breast, and Effects of *Cicuta*; *Vegeto mineral Water*, and other Medicines in those Disorders.

Of Sterility or Barrenness, with its several Causes, as relative to both Sexes; and of the Means most conducive to remedy such Defects.

L E C T U R E VII.

Of Generation.

The ancient and modern Doctrine of Conception, and various Opinions advanced by different Authors on that Subject.

Genitura of the Ancients, --- what?

The Oviparous System of *Harvey*, *Malphigius*, and *De Graaf*; --- Animalcular System of *Hammius*, *Leeuwenhoek*, and *Hartfoker*, and corpuscular organical System of *M. Buffon*.

Of the *impregnated Ovum*, and its Descent into the Uterus by the Fallopian Tube; with the progressive Order in which the several Parts of the Embryo unfold themselves in Magnitude, and Figure, from Conception to to the time of Birth.

Viviparous and *Oviparous* animals, --- their Analogy considered in the manner of their Production.

Æquivocal Generation; --- exploded by the Experiments of *Redi*.

Of *Twins*, Surperfoetation, false Conceptions, and Moles.

--- Extra-uterine Fœtuses, and Production of Monsters; with Remarks on the Cases mentioned by *Licetus*, &c.

The Term of Uterine Gestation.

L E C T U R E VIII.

Complaints which follow Conception ;---their various Causes, and palliative Method of Cure.

Signs of Conception,—how distinguished from obstructed Catamenia, the encysted Dropsy, or other equivocal Marks of Pregnancy.

Nausea, Vomiting, and Longing for unnatural Substances.

Of the Hæmorrhoids, Costiveness, Anasarcaous Swelling of the Legs, Cough and Difficulty of Breathing; and also the several Disorders arising from Distention of the Uterus, and Compression of the Viscera, in the last Months of Pregnancy.

Treatment and Cure of the Gonorrhœa Virulenta, and Lues Venerea, during Pregnancy.

Of Abortion from a Fault of the Mother's Constitution;—Diseases of the Foetus, or preternatural Conformation of the Uterus;—from inordinate Passions of the Mind;---external Violence, or any Cause which occasions a Separation of the Placenta from the Uterus.

Abortion,---most frequent in the three first Months of Gestation;---and why?

Remedies most effectual in preventing or relieving the Symptoms of Abortion.

Obstruction of Urine, at the latter End of Pregnancy.

Rules and Cautions for the Conduct, and Regimen of Women during the several periods of Pregnancy.

L E C T U R E IX.

Of the Foetus.

Situation of the Foetus in Utero, and Parts peculiar to it, viz.

Placenta and its Membranes; and of the Quantity, Quality and Use of the *Liquor Amnii*, or contained Waters.

Funis Umbilicalis or Navel-String, — Course of its Vessels traced to their Origin, with their several Connexions and Dependencies respecting the Mother and Child.

Nutrition and *Circulation* of Blood in the Foetus; and of the *Foramen Ovale*, *Canalis arteriosus* and *Ductus Venosus*.

Of the *Allantois* and *Urachus*.

Difference between the Foetus and Adult, and of the Change produced in the first, by the Effect of *Respiration*.

Most effectual Means of recovering Children, born *apparently dead*.

Experiment to discover, whether the Infant was *still-born* or destroyed after the Birth; with necessary Cautions in Reports to *Juries*, or in Cases of Evidence against the accused.

* * * The several Parts peculiar to the Foetus, will be demonstrated by *Anatomical Preparations*.

L E C T U R E X.

Signs which precede or accompany true Labour.

Of the Nature, Cause and Effects of *Labour Pains*, and expulsive Force of the Uterus in its gravid State.

Method

Method of Touching in the first Months of Pregnancy, and at the time of Labour, with the Information thence arising, viz. Whether the Woman is with Child or not; and whether in danger of Miscarriage; also what Changes of the Os Uteri indicate Labour, and distinguish *true Pains* from those which are *spurious*; ---how to promote the one and relieve the other.

The great Advantage of being thoroughly conversant in the *Art of Touching*, and truly distinguishing the presenting Parts; with Cautions and Remarks in doubtful Cases.

Gradual Dilatation of the Os Uteri, by the Protruded Membranes, or Pressure of the Child's Head.

Too early Rupture of the Membranes and Discharge of the Waters.

Preternatural Strength or Rigidity of the Membranes, and how the Progress of Labour may be retarded in such Cases; with the Methods to remedy these Inconveniencies.

Signs of a *dead Child*.

The bad Consequence of hastening Labour unseasonably in natural Cases, and Danger of Delays, or of giving *stimulating Medicines*, where the Child presents in a wrong Position.

L E C T U R E XI.

Division of Labours, viz. *Natural, Difficult, and Preternatural*.

Position of the Patient most conducive to a speedy Delivery, in the several Kinds of Labour; and the Methods practised in different Countries on that Occasion.

* * * A natural Labour artificially represented on the *Apparatus*, (in a Manner not hitherto effected) distinctly shewing the gradual Dilatation of the

the Os Uteri and Protrusion of the *Membranes*, with their alternate *Distention* and *Relaxation*, as the Pains come on, and go off.

Rupture of the Membranes and Evacuation of the Waters exactly imitated.

+++ An *artificial Demonstration of the Womb's progressive Contraction* as the Child advances in the Birth.

Manner how the Child's Head presents to the Birth in natural Cases,---the turns it makes in passing through the Pelvis; and likewise of *guarding the Perinæum* from Laceration.

Ould's Observations, respecting the Position of the Head, in natural Cases.

Force of Pressure on the Infant's Head exemplified by an *artificial Fœtus*, so constructed as to allow of the same Motion in the Bones of the Cranium as that of the real Child.

Of Tying and Cutting the *Funis*, and *extracting the Placenta*; with Remarks on the Conduct of Animals in the Division of the *Funis*; and likewise on the *Orbicularis Muscle* in *Fundo Uteri*, as described by *Ruysch*.

Of the *Placenta* presenting loose, or adhering to the *Os Uteri*,---the Cause of Uterine Hæmorrhage.—How to act in such Cases for the Preservation of the Mother.

The Method of discovering, whether there is a second Child or not.

L E C T U R E XII.

Of *Difficult Labors*, where extraordinary Assistance is required.

The various Causes of difficult or laborious Cases; particularly, Weakness of the Patient and Absence of her Pains;---Anxiety of Mind, Floodings, or other profuse Evacuations;---A narrow or distorted Pelvis,---Rigidity or preternatural Constriction of the Passages,---Induration of the Os Uteri, or wrong Position of the Child's Head; its being too large, over ossified, or dropfical.

General Rules how to assist in the various kinds of Laborious Cases.

Daventer's Sentiments on *Obliquities* of the Womb considered, and refuted.

Method of Practice when the Birth is retarded by twisting of the Funis round the Child's Neck.

The Use and Abuse of *Instruments*; with a comparative View of their Advantages and Defects, resulting from their Mechanical Structure, Action and Manner of Application.

Of *Palfyn's* and *Levret's* long Forceps, and also of those recommended by *Smellie*, &c.

The Vectis or Lever invented and used by *Roonhuijse*.—Its Use.

††† Description and Use of the Author's NEW FORCEPS, with *three Blades*, in which the mechanical Powers of the *Forceps* and *Lever* are combined, and their Utility demonstrated and confirmed by the concurring Testimonies of FOREIGN PROFESSORS, in Letters to the Author.

L E C T U R E XIII.

Of the Vertex	} presenting.
----- Fontanelle	
----- Face	
----- Ear	

+++ A difficult Labor represented, by an *Artificial Woman and Child*, shewing the Method of applying the Forceps, and other Instruments, in the several Positions of the Child's Head.

Levret's Method of Practice when the *Face is to the Pubes*.

Methods of discovering the Narrowness of the Pelvis, and position, or extraordinary Bulk of the Child's Head.

Practical Rules and Cautions in the Application of the Forceps, and Extraction of the Head.

Cases where the Forceps cannot be successfully applied, altho' the Head presents.

Of the particular Cases which require Instruments, and the time their Application becomes absolutely necessary for the Preservation of the Mother.

Symptoms denoting immediate Danger.

Crotchets and Perforators, --- in what Cases their Application condemned by *Crantz* of Vienna. *Rædererus*, Professor of Midwifery at Gottingen, --- censured by the above author for inculcating their frequent Use.

Of the *Terebra Occulta*, Long Scissars and Scalpel Ring; with the Manner of opening the Child's Head, when too large to pass, and the Life of the Mother is in Danger; --- how to extract it safely by the Forceps, Crotchet or *Tire-Tête* of *Mauriceau*.

L E C T U R E XIV.

Of *preternatural Labors*, where the Child is to be turned and brought by the Feet.

Method of turning the Child.

Mechanical Knowledge applied to the Operation of Turning the Child,---how useful.

The dangerous Consequence of too much Violence or injudicious Assistance in the above Cases.

Ruptured Womb,---fatal to the Patient.

Practical Rules and Cautions in the various kinds of preternatural Cases.

Remarks on the Insufficiency, and Impropriety of a *Glass Uterus*, in demonstrating the Manner of turning the Child, in Twin Cases or otherwise.

††† The several Kinds of *preternatural Labors* will be artificially represented on Machinery, according to the most approved modern Practice.

L E C T U R E XV.

The Method of delivering when the Feet, Knees or Breech present.

How to assist where the Child presents with the Breech, and cannot safely be turned and brought by the Feet.

Practical Rules to be observed in the above Case.

Of the Blunt Hook and its Application.

††† A Breech-case artificially represented.

Of the Child lying across the *Uterus*, and presenting with its Back, Belly, or Sides,—the assistance necessary on such Occasions.

L E C T U R E XVI.

Of the *Funis Umbilicalis* presenting before the Child's Head, and Danger of its Compression in the Passage.

††† The Method of delivering where the Arm or Shoulder present, artificially demonstrated by the *Apparatus*: on which is also represented the *contractive force of the Uterus* on the Body of the Infant.

Transverse Position of the Arms between the Hind-head and Pubes, where the Child is brought Footling.

Of the safest and most expeditious Methods of *extracting the Head* when detained by the Narrowness of the Pelvis; and the Danger of Delays or too much Violence on that Occasion.

The Manner of extracting the Child's Head when separated from the Body and left in Utero; with the Use of *Amand's Net*, *Terebra Occulta*, *Tire-Tête* or Forceps.

L E C T U R E XVII.

Of the Delivery of *Twins* or Plurality of Children, and the Extraction of their *Placentæ*; with Remarks on cutting and tying the *Funis* of the first-born Infant.

The *Birth of Monsters*, and Extraction of false Conceptions, Moles or Polypose Tumors of the Uterus.

Observations on the *Section of the Symphysis Pubis*, successfully performed at Paris by *Sigault*, and recommended by *M. Le Roy*, as a Substitute for the *Cæsarian Operation*.

Of the *Cæsarian Operation*; with Remarks on the Cases mentioned by *Rossetus* and others.

L E C T U R E XVIII.

Of *Uterine Hæmorrhages, Convulsions, and acute Fevers* in the State of Pregnancy.

Of *Floodings* before Delivery, from external Violence,---Fevers,---Passions of the Mind, or any Cause which will preternaturally encrease the Momentum of the Blood.

Floodings after Delivery---from violent Extraction of the Placenta, Distention of the Womb by a second Child, or Want of its due Contraction, from general Weakness of the Solids.

Convulsions ;---their various Causes and Medical Treatment.

Practical Commentaries on such of the Aphorisms of *Hippocrates, Mauriceau, &c.* as relate to the Diseases most fatal to Women.

L E C T U R E XIX.

Treatment of Women after Delivery ;---the Regimen then necessary, and Means most conducive to their Recovery.

Of the *Maladies* sometimes consequent of Delivery, viz. After-pains, Inflammation, Contusion, or Rupture of the Uterus.

Laceration of the Bladder, or Perinæum ;---and of the Applications necessary in the Intention of Cure.

Obstruction, or Incontinence of Urine, and *Method of passing the Catheter.*

Inversion of the Womb, and Prolapsion of the Rectum.—their Cause and Cure.

Of the *Lochia*, when obstructed, or redundant in Quantity ; and Effects of *Opiates* or other Medicines in the above Cases.

General Observations on the Nature and Treatment of *obstructed Lochia.*

L E C T U R E XX.

* * Animadversions on the Nature and Cause of the acute, epidemical Fever, peculiar to Women after Delivery, commonly called the *Child-bed Fever*; --- with *Clinical Observations and Remarks* towards the most effectual Methods of its cure.

Of the Milk Fever, and Inflammation or Abscess of the Breasts.

Topical Applications for repelling the Milk --- pernicious, and why.

Miliary Eruption, Diarrhæa, or other Evacuations supervening the Milk Fever or Obstruction of the Lochia.

Colostrum or first Milk ; its Qualities and Effects on the sucking Infant.

Of the Nature and Secretion of the Milk ; — how rendered medicinal to the Infant.

Evacuations necessary at the End of the Month.

L E C T U R E XXI.

The Treatment and Regimen of new-born Infants.

Disorders in general attending the *first State of Infancy*, and the most approved Methods of their Cure.

Of Fractures and Dislocations, and a Species of *Hydrocele* peculiar to new-born Infants.

Of the { Mould-shot Head,
 { Hydrocephalus, and
 { Spina Bifida.
 { Hare Lip, ---
 { Confinement of the Tongue, or
 { Obstruction of the natural Passages.

Of

Of { Hernia Congenita
 { Icterus Infantum,
 { Dentition, and
 { Dyfentery.

Of { Tinea,
 { Aphthæ, and
 { Crufta Lactea.

L E C T U R E XXII.

Acute and chronic Diseases, in general, incident to the *second State of Infancy*; --- their Pathology and Method of Cure.

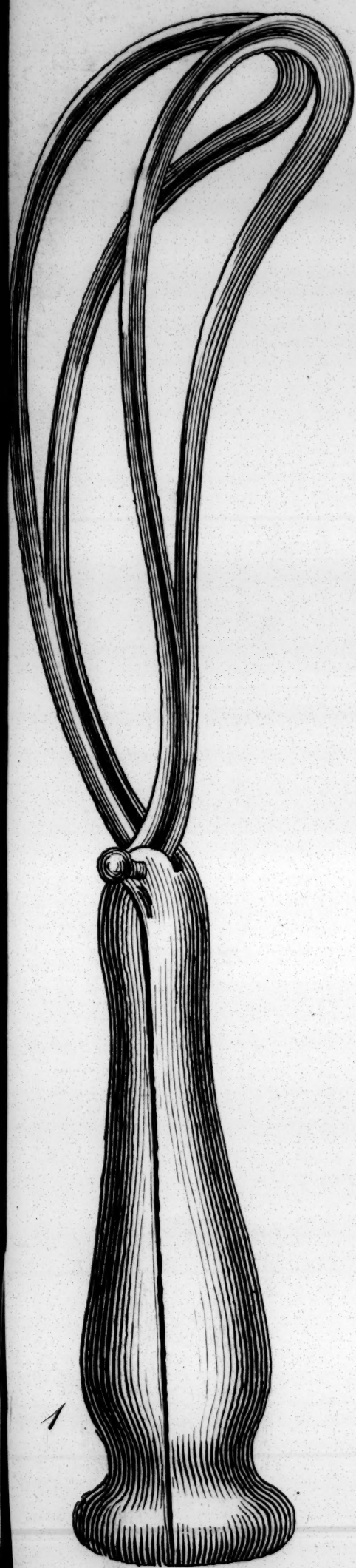
Of { Small-pox, and the Artificial Method of communicating that Disease
 { by Inoculation.
 { Measles,
 { Tuffis Convulfiva, and
 { Epilepfia Infantum.

Of { Rickets,
 { Atrophia, and
 { Diforders arifing from Worms.
 { Scrophula.
 { Lues Venerea, and hereditary Diseases.

Practical Cautions refpecting the the indiscriminate Ufe of *Bleeding*, *Blifters*, and *Opiates*, in Diseases of Children.

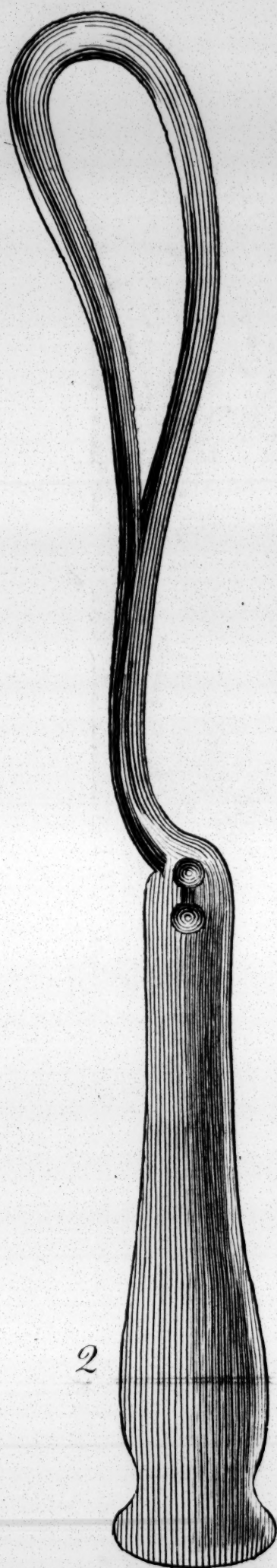
Directions for the Choice of a *Wet-Nurse* --- Indications to be taken from her Habit of Body and Quality of Milk; with Rules for the Regulation of her Diet in Diforders incident to the Child.

T H E E N D.



*The Blades of the
Forceps join'd*

avant del.

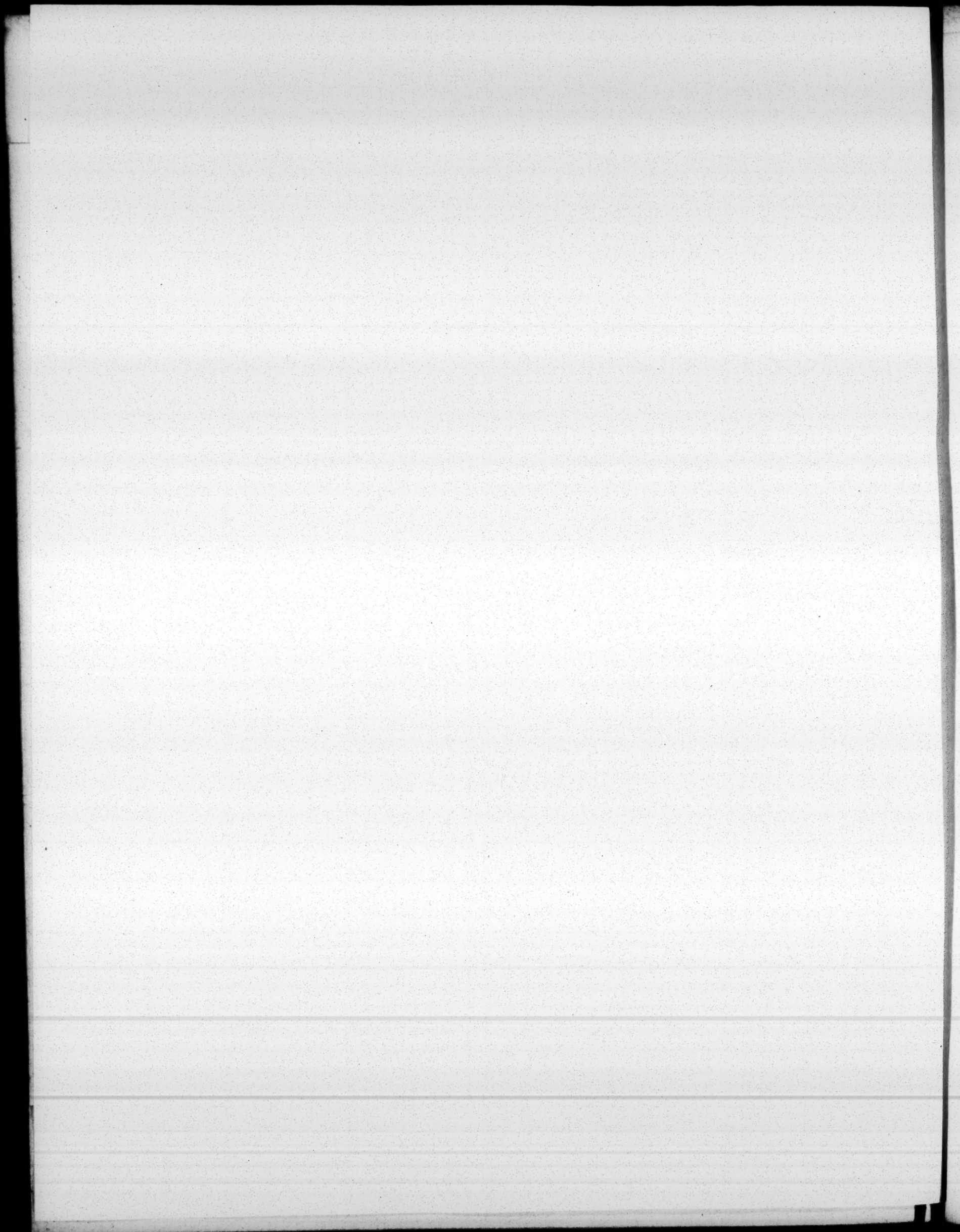


*The Lever or
third Blade*





*The Child's Head plac'd within the Bones
of the Pelvis, to shew the Action of the
three Blades as already describ'd .*



DESCRIPTION and USE

OF THE

NEW FORCEPS

WITH THREE BLADES.

THE *Forceps* used in MIDWIFERY may be considered as an Instrument consisting of two Levers, which act in contrary Directions from one common Centre or Fulcrum, where their Blades unite, and are sustained by each other; consequently, their Power on the Body to be moved will be in Proportion to the Length of their Levers or Handles.

H. Crantz, Professor of Midwifery at Vienna, and Levret of Paris, both observe, that when the Child's Head is wedged within the Bones of the Pelvis, (*capite incuneato*) it can scarcely ever be extracted by the *common Forceps* recommended by Smellie, because of their Shortness; and as their Blades are *only curved in one Direction*, whenever it happens that the Hind-head is forced over the *Symphysis Pubis*, it cannot then be got hold of within the Curve of their Blades, which being only applied along the Ears in a straight Direction, are therefore apt to slip downwards over the Face, and foil the Operator in extracting the Head: This will the rather happen, because they are made *taper towards the Points*, which will diminish their Surface of Contact on the Head, and prevent them from taking a firm Hold; — *so that they are least serviceable in those very Cases where they are most wanted*, — that is, where the Pelvis is narrow; for it must be allowed, of all Difficulties, that which happens from the above Cause, is by far the most insurmountable Obstacle to the Child's Birth, since it can only be overcome by very strong Pains, which compress the Head, and force it to conform to the bony Passage.

The *short Forceps* may indeed be effectually applied when the Child's Head is low in the Pelvis; but where that is the Case, artificial Assistance is seldom necessary, the *principal Difficulty being then over*; because the Head is now descended through a narrow, indilatable, bony Passage, the *Brim of the Pelvis*, into a wider Cavity which is dilatable, namely, the inferior Segment of the Pelvis. But should any Difficulty still remain, it will now be removed by the Concurrence of two Causes; viz. the inferior Parts of the Pelvis will gradually dilate and give Way to the Pressure of the Head, which at the same Time, will be squeezed into a longitudinal Form, and therefore its transverse Diameter, in respect to the Passage, will

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become

become considerably less; both which Circumstances have a manifest Tendency to facilitate the Birth.

I know that the Application of Forceps is objected to by some, till after the Head has got below the Brim of the Pelvis, on the Supposition that the Force applied to bring it down, would prove injurious to the Mother. — But the *violence and long continued Compression of the soft Parts*, viz. the *Vagina and Neck of the Bladder*, &c. when squeezed between the Head and Bones of the Pelvis, will be much more liable to endanger the Patient. — Since Instances may be found where a *Mortification* of those Parts was the Consequence, and where the Child by the Force of extreme Pressure was also *born dead*; of two Evils, therefore, the least is to be chosen.

I would ask such, what they would do, *when the Head is wedged within the bony Passage, and will not advance by the strongest Pains?* Consequently, where the Patient is in danger of *dying undelivered*, especially if other dangerous Symptoms occur; as *intermitting Pulse, coldness of the Extremities, Faintings*, &c.

Under such pressing Circumstances, they must either *open the Head of a living Child*; — *use the long, double curved Forceps*, or *suffer the Patient to die undelivered*: we have already seen that Delivery in such Cases cannot be effected by the *short Forceps*, and to open the Head of a living Infant, before every other Expedient had been tried in vain, would surely be deemed *rash and unnatural Practice!*

In Cases, therefore, extremely laborious, when the *Head is large*, — the *Pelvis narrow*, or both; — — where the Patient's Strength is exhausted by *Uterine Hemorrhage*, — — where she is suddenly attacked with *Convulsions, Faintings*, or other alarming Symptoms, and consequently, where the *labor Pains would be insufficient* to bring forth the Child; the *long, double curved Forceps*, hereafter described, may be used with great Safety and Advantage, either *with or without the Lever or third Blade*, as Occasion may require.

When the Fore-head presents to the Os Sacrum, and Hind-head to the *Pubes*, the long Axis of the Head intersects the short Axis of the Pelvis, and therefore, these Parts may be considered as *two Ellipses or Ovals* crossing each other; — a Position of the Head very unfavorable to the Child's Birth. Here the Blades of the Forceps are to be applied along the Ears, and we are directed to turn the Face to one Side, so that there may be a *perfect Coincidence* between the Shape of the Head and Cavity of the Pelvis: but this cannot always be done without much Violence; besides, when it is wedged within the Brim, we cannot always be certain of its exact Position, and therefore, should it happen to be turned the wrong Way, the Difficulty will be increased; consequently, there will often be a *Necessity of bringing it along as it first presented*. — Whenever this is the Case, a very capital Inconvenience, in

in every kind of Forceps, will occur; for when they are thus applied on the Sides of the Head, the more it is there compressed by the Action of the Blades, the more will the *Hind-head* be forced over the *Pubes*, and the *Fore-head* against the *Sacrum*, which will still add to the Difficulty, and consequently it cannot be extracted in this Manner, without great Violence both to the Mother and Child:—This Circumstance has happened to me in Practice several Times, particularly in two laborious Cases, where the repeated Application of the Blades at the Sides of the Head *proved ineffectual*; and dangerous Symptoms appearing, I was afraid of farther Delay, and therefore, introduced them at the *Sacrum* and *Pubes*, that is, on the *Face* and *Occiput*, and extracted the Head with Ease at the first Effort; the Patient, during the Operation, being placed on her Side.

As this Success was plainly owing to the Compression of the longest Axis of the Head, it first suggested to me the Hint of applying *Forceps with three Blades*, one of which may be occasionally used as a *Lever*, which will act on the same Principle as that of *Roonbuijs*, by Means of which, he is said to have practised with so much Reputation and Success in Holland, that *De Vscher* and *Van de Paol*, (two Physicians of Amsterdam) purchased it as Secret, for a considerable Sum of Money, and afterwards published it for the Good of Mankind:—'Tis only a *simple Lever*, made of tempered Steel, which, in laborious Cases, is directed to be passed up between the *Pubes* and *Hind-head*, in order to bring down the last below the *Symphysis Pubis*.—this it will often effectually do, but notwithstanding its seeming Simplicity, its use may be attended with the utmost Danger; for as the *Symphysis* of the *Pubes* is the Centre from which it acts, and the resting point upon which the whole Stress is laid; whenever much Force is applied to bring down the Head, (Action and Reaction being the same) the *Vagina*, *Neck of the Bladder*, and *nervous Parts*, may be so violently bruised, as to occasion *Mortification*, or even the very *Symphysis* of the *Pubes* might happen to give way.

To remedy this Inconvenience, which is the principal Objection to the *Lever*, I have, for some Years past, in my LECTURES on Midwifery, recommended an *Instrument consisting of three Blades*, being, in Fact a Pair of *long Forceps with a double Curve*, and the Addition of a *Lever*, which may be applied without the least Danger of hurting the Mother; for here the *Fulcrum* of the *Lever* is removed from the *Pubes* to the junction of the two Blades, which not only may be made to act as a Pair of Forceps, but at the same time afford a firm resting Point for the third Blade, by Means of a small Pivot, or *central Pin*, placed at the under Side of the lower Blade.

After the Introduction of the Blades of these Forceps at the Sides of the Child's Head, this *Lever* is to be passed up between the *Occiput* and *Pubes*; and as
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the Pelvis there forms an Arch, and is also *extremely shallow*; by inclining the Handle towards the Perinæum, it may be introduced without the least Degree of Violence or Difficulty.

This *additional Blade or Lever* applied immediately to the resisting Point or Occiput, where it rests at the Pubes, will not only effectually shorten the Head, and detach it from the place of its Obstruction, but will also *prevent the Forceps from slipping*; for if they tend down towards the Face, the *Lever*, which is fixed at the Hind-head, and sustained at the Junction of the Blades, must be drawn down with them, and consequently the Head also will still be more brought into the Center of the Pelvis, and more easily extracted; which may be better understood by referring to the *third Figure in the Copper Plate*.

The Blades of these Forceps are broad at their Extremities where they grasp the Head, and being *reflected towards the Pubes with a curvilinear Sweep*, they not only correspond more aptly with the Direction of Passage than the common short ones; but also take a much *more firm and extensive Hold of the Hind-head*, where it rests at the Brim: Besides, as their compressive Force on the Head is more uniform, there will be less Danger of lacerating the Perinæum: They will also be less liable to hurt the Patient, for, they lock at a greater Distance from the Os Externum; neither will they keep this Part so violently on the Stretch; for their Blades near the Junction, are much closer together than in the common Forceps;—the Distance in the first being only two Inches from Blade to Blade, but in the last, three Inches and a Quarter.

The Curve of the Blades from their Junction to their Extremities is in Length *seven Inches and an Half*, and from thence to Extremities of the Handles, *five Inches and an Half*, in the Whole *thirteen Inches*; so that independent of the Lever, and admitting they are used alone, considering *their Length and the Effect of their double Curve*, they will in all Cases be found preferable to the common *short Forceps*, with a *single Curve*. But notwithstanding the prevalence of Novelty in most Matters; *new Truths are sometimes hardly sufficient to combat our old Errors*; so difficult is it to divest the Mind of Habit and early Prejudice. That the Ignorant should not be able to comprehend is not more to be wondered at, than that the Blind should mistake his Way; but there is less Excuse for those who pretend to Candor and Discernment, yet obstinately shut their Eyes on Conviction.

The Lever is about twelve Inches and an half in length, and in its outside Centre, which should be made with a PROJECTING ANGLE, to give it greater power of action, are placed two small depressions, for the reception of the *Pivot* on the lower blade with a superficial Groove between these depressions, so as to allow it to be passed higher or lower as occasion may require.

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In short, *these two mechanical Powers of the Forceps and Lever thus combined, will mutually assist each other;—For the Lever will not only prevent the Forceps from slipping, but will also shorten the Head, and bring it down below the Arch of the Pubes into the Centre of the Pelvis, by which Means it may be more easily extracted. On the other Hand, the Forceps will afford a resting Point to the Lever, from which it may effectually act without any Sort of Injury to the Patient, so that we have the Advantages of both Instruments without the Defects of either.*

To those who have seen the *Instrument*, and Manner of its Application, this Description would perhaps have been sufficiently plain and obvious; but lest it should be imperfectly understood by others, I have added *two Copper-plate Prints* to represent it more clearly, being desirous of making it useful to the utmost of my Power.

P O S T S C R I P T.

Several of these Forceps having been made in a bungling, immechanical manner, and very unlike the original Pair, from whence the annexed Print is taken; Gentlemen of the Profession are requested to direct the Instrument-maker to be particularly careful on that Account, and order them to be made of tempered Steel instead of Iron case-hardened, which will always bend and defeat the Purpose of their Application.—The Lever should be made more streight, and its Angle, where the two Holes are, should be more projecting; these Holes are also too deep, and the Pivot at the Junction of the Blades is generally too short, so as to prevent the Lever from having sufficient Power of Action.

The Blades of the Forceps have hitherto been made too short and slender; they have also wanted more breadth at their Points, and Depth in the Curve where they should grasp the Head. The Blades, when locked, should almost touch at their Points, and only be covered with Leather high as the Fork.

London,
Craven-street, Strand.
September, 2d, 1782.

EXTRACT of a LETTER from Mons. D. H. Galland, to Dr. Leake, relative to his New Forceps.

Monsieur

Monsieur JOHN LEAKE, Membre du Collège Royal des Medecins de Londres, &c. à Londres.

JE me flatte que vous excuserez l'importunité d'une personne qui, ainsi que vous Monsieur, consacre son tems et ses forces à l'exercice de fonctions dans lesquelles il ne s'agit pas moins que de veiller à la conversation de nos semblables. Oui, Monsieur, j'ose m'assurer que vous ne prendrez pas mon hardiesse de mauvaise part, puisque c'est la reputation distinguée dont vous jouissez a si just titre qui y donne occasion. Voici de quoi il s'agit: j'ai lu avec un singulier plaisir le discours préliminaire que vous avez prononcé le 4 d'Octobre dernier, a l'ouverture de vôtre Cours d'Accouchemens, à la fin du quel j'ai vu avec la plus grande satisfaction la description & la figure d'un nouveau Forceps a trois branches, de votre invention; et comme il me paroît que cette troisieme branche peut être fort utile dans certain cas, j'ai d'abord pris la resolution de me procurer cet Instrument, tant pour en faire l'essai que pour le montrer dans mes cours publics: mais attendu l'ignorance de nos couteliers, et la difficulté qu'il y a pour leur faire suivre exactement le dessein, j'ai cru que le plus court et le plus sur feroit de m'adresser directement à l'Auteur. Je vous prie donc, Monsieur, d'avoir la bonté de faire faire le dit Forceps selon la description que vous en avez donnée, & de me le faire parvenir par celui qui aura l'honneur de vous remettre cette lettre & qui aura soin de payer l'instrument. Vous m'obligerez infiniment et vous me rendrez un service qui méritera toute ma reconnaissance.

Je vous prie d'agréer mes offres de service dans ce pays ci où je vou drois être en état de vous prouver les sentimens de la parfaite estime et de la considération distinguée avec laquelle j'ai l'honneur d'être.

M O N S I E U R,

Votre très humble & très obeissant Serviteur,

DAVID HENRY GALLANDAT,

*Flessingue en Zélande
ce 10 Aout 1774.*

*Membre de l' acad. imp. des curieux de la nature,
trésorier de la société Zelandoise des sciences;
demonstrateur d'anatomie, de chirurgie, & de
l'art de accouchemens, à Flessingue.*

C'est mon adresse, en cas que vous ayez la bonté de m'honorer d'une reponse, ce qui me feroit un sensible plaisir.

S I R,

Flushing in Zealand, August 10, 1774.

I FLATTER myself you will excuse the importunity of a person who, like yourself, Sir, devotes both his time and abilities to the exercise of duties, the object of which is of no less importance than the preservation of our fellow creatures. Yes, Sir, I dare say you will not be offended at the liberty I have taken, since the distinguished reputation you so deservedly enjoy has been the occasion of it. Here follows the matter in question. I have read with singular pleasure the introductory Lecture which you gave on the 4th of October last, at the opening of your Course of Midwifery; annexed to it I have seen, with the greatest satisfaction, the figure and description of a *new Pair of Forceps with three Blades*, of your invention; and as it appears to me, that that third Blade may be very useful in particular

ticular Cases, I was directly determined to get that Instrument, with Intention both to make trials of it, and to shew it at my public Lectures; but owing to the Ignorance of our Cutlers and the Difficulty there is to make them take an exact Copy of the Model, I thought it the shortest and best Way to apply directly to the Inventor. I shall, then, be much obliged to you, Sir, if you will be so good to get me a Pair made according to the Description you have given of them, and send them me by the Person who will have the Honor to present you this Letter, and pay for the Instrument. In doing this, you will render me a Service which will put me under an infinite Obligation.

Accept, I beg, my Offers of Service in this Country, where I should be very happy to have it in my power to shew you the Sense of that perfect Esteem and distinguished Consideration with which I have the Honor to be,

S I R,

Your most humble and most obedient Servant,

D. H. GALLANDAT,

Member of the Imperial Academy of natural Philosophy, and Treasurer of the Zealand Society of Sciences; Demonstrator of Anatomy, Surgery, and Midwifery.

I was

*I was honoured with the following Letter in the English Language,
from M. Chauffier, Surgeon, at Dyon in France.*

DEAR SIR,

Dyon, Burgundy, Jan. 11, 1776.

WITH great Pleasure I received your very obliging Letter, and to you my true thanks are due.

By Means of our French Ambassador I send you my Friend's Book on *Uterine Hæmorrhages*: The Author, at page 171, has mentioned the Translation of your excellent Work, and exactly repeated your own Words on *Ligatures*, and *astringent Medicines*, and also at page 181, where he laments that your ingenious Observations were not sooner known.

At present, I prepare my Translation to be printed speedily, but should be glad to know, whether there is a *new* and enlarged Edition of your Book, as I see indicated by the English Catalogue.

I have also the Description and Use of your *new Forceps*, which I purpose to add to your *Practical Observations*.

My Friend, *Mr. Leroux*, presents to you his Salutation, and shall be happy to find his Book worthy of your Approbation. — If I can render you Services in this Kingdom, I beg you to command me, and allow the high Respect with which I am

DEAR SIR,

Your most obliged and obedient Servant,

F: CHAUSSIER.

Extraëts of Letters from C. M. THODE, Esq. Surgeon to the Empress of Russia, and Councillor at the Court of Petersburg, to Dr. Leake, on the Subject of the New Forceps, translated from the German Originals in his Possession.

S I R,

Petersburg, May 6, 1776.

THE Esteem I have always entertained for your Person and Abilities, and the Gratitude I owe you, require, before every thing, that I return you my humble and sincere Thanks for all the Favors received of you, during my Stay in *London*, when I had the Pleasure of attending your *public Lectures*, as well as of frequenting the *Westminster Lying-in Hospital*, under your Direction; and also for the Honor you have done me since my Absence, by sending me your *New invented Forceps with three Blades*.

I must confess, Sir, when first you shewed me the Model of these *Forceps*, the Invention appeared more curious than materially useful: I considered it as a complex Instrument, the Application of which, for that Reason, might be liable to Difficulties.

These were my Sentiments when I received this Instrument, and until I experienced it's Utility, in two Cases, where, I am sure, without the Assistance of the *third Blade*, it would have been impossible for me to deliver the Mother.

In the first Case, the Patient was a healthy, strong young Woman, who on former Occasions, had easy Labours; yet, here it so happened, that after the Discharge of the Waters, the Child's Head remained firmly wedged within the Pelvis. In this Situation the Woman had been in strong Labour during three Days; and when I was called, on Enquiry, I found her Pains ceased for near twenty-four Hours: She was extremely weak and exhausted. It was not without great trouble I discovered that the
back

back part of the Head had been forced over the *Ossa Pubis*. All my Endeavours to bring it into a more favourable Position proved ineffectual; the *Use of Smellie's Forceps* also proved unsuccessful.

Here, Sir, for the first Time, I experienced the great Excellence of your *New Forceps*, and that nothing could equal the Utility of their *third Blade*, or Lever.

In the second Case, the Axis of the Head was in a similar Situation, only with this Difference, that the Fore-Head was forced over the Bones of the Pubes. In the first Case, by Means of your Forceps, *I was enabled to save the Mother*, and in the second, *both the Mother and Child*; for which Reason I cannot help being very much pleased with your Invention.

Knowing, Sir, your Candor and Indulgence I flatter myself with Hopes, that you will not take amiss what I have here mentioned, regarding the Prejudices I at first conceived of your New Instrument, since I now willingly confess I was then very much mistaken. This is often the Case, when we trust to Opinion only.

Prompted by Humanity, you have, by Means of this *New Instrument*, endeavoured to save the Life of the Child, where others have not scrupled to destroy it, as a Thing unavoidably necessary. How beneficial would it be to Society, if every one would follow your Example; and if *Prejudice*, *Ignorance*, and *Vanity* would no longer hinder some Men of the Profession from examining with Impartiality and Attention whatever is *new and useful*?

But what do you think of those who endeavour to persuade the Public of their Abilities to deliver Women in all Cases of Midwifery, without the Assistance of any Instrument whatsoever? Not to mention several particular Cases where all Authors agree, that Instruments are indispensably necessary; I am of Opinion, that even the most natural Case, under certain Circumstances, as *Floodings*, &c. may require their Use; particularly the *Forceps*. Of this I am fully convinced, by a Case which lately occurred to me: It was in a strong young Woman, with a well formed Pelvis, in her first Lying-in. The Patient's Strength was so totally exhausted, by
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being

being put too early upon Labour by an ignorant Midwife, that although the Child's Head was considerably advanced, the Pains were insufficient to terminate the Labour. I found the Patient motionless, and almost dead, her Extremities being cold, even near her Body, with hardly any Pulse or Respiration. I was under the Necessity of using the Forceps; but notwithstanding I delivered the Patient in a few Minutes, she died soon after.

Is not this a Proof that even the most natural Cases, where the Strength is exhausted, sometimes require Instruments; and if so, how much more requisite will be their Use in deformed Persons, where there must be still greater Difficulty?

I cannot conclude without sending you a very particular Case, which I believe deserves Attention, as I do not remember any Author who has mentioned that Operation which I practised with Success.

By the Case I here inclose, together with *three accurate Drawings*, of which, Sir, I beg your Acceptance, you will perceive that the Head of a big Child was torn from the Body, and left behind in a narrow and distorted Pelvis: Two skilful Accoucheurs had already laboured in Vain for several Hours to extract it.

When I was called for Assistance, the *Cæsarian Operation* was proposed; but, by a successful Attempt with an Instrument, in the Manner mentioned in the Case, and the *Figure of which I here send you*, I brought the Head away, and delivered the Patient in a few Minutes.

I should be extremely glad to be favoured with your Opinion of the different Cases I have here inclosed, and am, with great Esteem.

S I R,

Your most obedient Servant,

C. M. T H O D E.

S I R,

Holland, Hague, Nov. 12, 1776.

S I R

I Do not doubt but you will be much surprized to hear I am so near, and that in a few Weeks I hope to have the Pleasure of seeing you in *London*. At *Leiden* I had the Satisfaction of being in Company with *Dr. Brand*, a very able and experienced *Accoucheur*, much esteemed by all the Professors of that University. Among other Things, your *New invented Forceps* became the Subject of Conversation, He told me he had not yet seen that Instrument, but had heard much of it, and that several Cases had occurred to him, where he had been obliged to use a third Blade taken from another Instrument, in the Manner of your *Lever*, and that he particularly remembered, *two Instances* where he had been successful and was able to accomplish what, without such a *third Blade* would have been utterly impossible.

In one of these Cases, indeed, he caused a depression of the Bones of the Head, which notwithstanding all his Endeavours, he could not raise, but which, in a few Days, disappeared of itself and the Child was then alive and well.

He wishes to have a Pair of your *New Forceps*, and much approves your Invention of adding a *third Blade*. I hope to find you well on my Arrival in *London*, and remain, with the utmost Respect,

S I R,

Your most humble Servant,

C. M. THEODE.

††† *Dr. Leake is informed by Dr. Wedenberg of Stockholm, that the Description of his New Forceps is translated by Dr. Kronits, Physician at Berlin.*

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DEAR

D E A R S I R,

Thetford, Norfolk, August 7, 1781.

I FLATTER myself, the following Case will afford you some Pleasure, as my Success in the Treatment of it I attribute solely to the Knowledge which I acquired from your ingenious Lectures, and my Attendance at the Westminster Lying-in Hospital, under your Direction.

I am, D E A R S I R,

With the utmost Respect,

Your most obedient Servant,

WILLIAM ROBERT MINGAY.

L A B O R I O U S C A S E.

Mr. S. of B. came to my House, (about five Weeks ago) in great Haste, and desired I would visit his Wife as soon as possible; he informed me that she had been in strong Labour for forty-eight Hours, attended by a Midwife, and for the last twelve Hours by an *experienced Accoucheur*; that his Wife (when he left her) was extremely ill, and that her Friends expected every Moment would put a Period to her Life. — Her Strength was quite exhausted, from having been so long in Labor, without the least Rest; neither had she any Pains for the last ten Hours. Her Pulse was feeble, and she was scarce able to speak. On Examination, I found the soft parts sufficiently dilated, but that the child's head was firmly wedged in the Pelvis; the *occiput projected considerably over the Pubes*, the Head was large and solid, and the Pelvis narrow and distorted. Considering the preceding circumstances, I acquainted her Attendants, that I was fearful of the Event, but that the only Chance she had for her Life was to be delivered as soon as possible. Her Accoucheur proposed the immediate perforation of the child's head, as the *short Forceps had proved unsuccessful,*

successful, and thought there were no other means to save his patient. — I informed him, as we were not certain the Child was dead, I wished to make Use of *Dr. Leake's Forceps*, before I could, with an easy Conscience, consent to open the Head, He readily agreed, although he had never seen their Use before. Having cheered up my patient, by telling her I was in Hopes of saving both her and her Infant, I emptied the Contents of the Rectum and Bladder; then placing her in a proper Position, and having her well supported, I passed a Blade of your Forceps along the left Side of the Child's Head, and the other along the opposite Side; after locking them together, I attempted to make a gentle Extraction, but was defeated; for I perceived, that the Compression of the Blades on each Side of the Head had rendered the difficulty still greater, *by forcing the Occiput farther over the Pubes*, and the Forehead against the Sacrum; I, therefore, had Recourse to your *Lever*, (or third Blade) which I was able to introduce with Ease, between the Occiput and Pubes, by inclining the Handle towards the Perinæum. Having fixed it properly, I made a gentle Compression, and extracted the Head without Violence, at the first Effort, and delivered my Patient in about ten Minutes, of a fine, *living Child*, to the great Satisfaction of those present. My Patient recovered, and is now in perfect Health.

T H E E N D.

